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LOUISIANA LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF
EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

BATON ROUGE
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THE LOUISIANA ECONOMIC SITUATION

Total nonagricultural employment in Louisiana during December was estimated at 1,547,000, a decrease of 2,400 employees from last month but 18,100 above the December, 1989 figure.

Employment in the goods producing sector was estimated at 312,500 for December. This estimate was 2,600 below the November revised level, but 300 above the year-ago estimate of 312,200. Mining employment was down as a result of decreased activity in the exploration of oil and gas. Less business in heavy construction contributed to the downturn in total construction employment. Manufacturing was lower due to a decrease in both the durable and nondurable goods sectors.

Service producing employment, estimated at 1,234,500, was 200 higher than last month. Transportation, communications, and public utilities employment was higher due to more activity in the electric, gas, and sanitary services segment. Trade employment rose due to seasonal hiring for the holidays. An increase in insurance employment was instrumental in the higher level of employment in the finance, insurance, and real estate industry. Services employment was lower due to several segments exhibiting decreases for December. Government employment dropped due in large part to a decrease in state education payrolls.

Average weekly earnings of Louisiana's 129,000 production workers in manufacturing increased to $520.03 in December, an increase of $5.52 above November, and an increase of $27.79 above December of last year. Average hourly earnings were $0.18 higher in December than last month, and $0.61 higher than December a year ago. Weekly hours averaged 43.7 during the month, a decrease of 0.2 hours from the November figure.

The December preliminary unemployment rate for Louisiana was 6.5 percent up slightly from the November revised rate of 6.2 percent. This small increase was due primarily to seasonal factors. The average unemployment rate for the last three months (October, November, December) was 6.2 percent compared to 6.6 percent for the same period last year.

The comparable national unemployment rate for December was 5.9 percent. The national unemployment rate for November was 5.8 percent.

Total unemployment increased to 122,600. Claims for unemployment insurance increased over last month but were at a lower level than December, 1989.

The state's civilian labor force decreased to 1,889,100 from the November revised civilian labor force of 1,889,700 with a decrease in total employment to 1,766,500.

LOUISIANA
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Dec. 1990*	Nov. 1990**	Dec. 1989**	Net Change from Nov. 1990	Net Change from Dec. 1989
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	1547.0	1549.4	1528.9	- 2.4	+18.1
GOODS PRODUCING	312.5	315.1	312.2	- 2.6	+ 0.3
MINING	53.4	53.8	54.7	- 0.4	- 1.3
Oil and Gas Extraction	51.6	52.0	52.9	- 0.4	- 1.3
Nonmetallic Minerals	1.8	1.8	1.8	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	83.2	83.6	82.1	- 0.4	+ 1.1
General Contractors	15.7	15.7	15.9	0	- 0.2
Heavy Construction Ex. Bldg.	33.2	33.7	33.0	- 0.5	+ 0.2
Special Trade Contractors	34.3	34.2	33.2	+ 0.1	+ 1.1
MANUFACTURING	175.9	177.7	175.4	- 1.8	+ 0.5
Durable Goods	78.1	78.4	77.2	- 0.3	+ 0.9
Lumber and Wood Products	11.7	11.9	12.0	- 0.2	- 0.3
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	5.3	5.3	5.2	0	+ 0.1
Primary Metal Industries	3.0	3.0	3.0	0	0
Fabricated Metal Products	13.2	13.3	12.1	- 0.1	+ 1.1
Machinery, Except Electrical	10.7	10.7	10.4	0	+ 0.3
Electrical & Electronic Equipment	7.2	7.2	7.4	0	- 0.2
Transportation Equipment	24.2	24.1	24.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Other Durable Goods (1)	2.8	2.9	3.1	- 0.1	- 0.3
Nondurable Goods	97.8	99.3	98.2	- 1.5	- 0.4
Food & Kindred Products	19.7	20.8	20.3	- 1.1	- 0.6
Apparel & Other Textile Products	9.4	9.6	10.1	- 0.2	- 0.7
Paper & Allied Products	12.3	12.4	12.3	- 0.1	0
Printing & Publishing	10.0	10.0	9.7	0	+ 0.3
Chemicals & Allied Products	29.1	29.1	28.5	0	+ 0.6
Inorganic Chemicals	5.8	5.8	5.7	0	+ 0.1
Organic Chemicals	10.9	10.9	10.6	0	+ 0.3
Petroleum and Coal Products	11.8	11.8	11.6	0	+ 0.2
Petroleum Refining	10.9	10.9	10.7	0	+ 0.2
Other Nondurable Goods (2)	5.5	5.6	5.7	- 0.1	- 0.2
SERVICE PRODUCING	1234.5	1234.3	1216.7	+ 0.2	+17.8
TRANSP., COMM. & PUBLIC UTIL.	105.6	105.5	105.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Railroad Transportation	4.8	4.8	4.9	0	- 0.1
Transportation, ex. Railroads	61.6	61.9	61.6	- 0.3	0
Water Transportation	25.4	25.6	25.9	- 0.2	- 0.5
Communication & Public Utilities	39.2	38.8	38.9	+ 0.4	+ 0.3
Comm. Ex. US Postal Service	16.9	16.8	16.9	+ 0.1	0
Electric, Gas & Sanitary Services	22.3	22.0	22.0	+ 0.3	+ 0.3

LOUISIANA - CONTINUED
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Dec. 1990*	Nov. 1990**	Dec. 1989**	Net Change from Nov. 1990	Net Change from Dec. 1989
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	376.2	373.5	371.2	+ 2.7	+ 5.0
Wholesale Trade	85.3	85.6	84.4	- 0.3	+ 0.9
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	47.8	47.9	47.3	- 0.1	+ 0.5
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	37.5	37.7	37.1	- 0.2	+ 0.4
Retail Trade	290.9	287.9	286.8	+ 3.0	+ 4.1
Bldg. Mat'ls. & Garden Supplies	10.3	10.3	9.8	0	+ 0.5
General Merchandise	48.6	46.9	48.0	+ 1.7	+ 0.6
Food Stores	57.2	57.2	56.6	0	+ 0.6
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	29.8	29.8	29.7	0	+ 0.1
Apparel and Accessory	16.9	16.3	16.6	+ 0.6	+ 0.3
Furniture and Equipment	8.9	8.8	8.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Eating and Drinking Places	87.2	87.1	86.0	+ 0.1	+ 1.2
Other Retail Trade	32.0	31.5	31.3	+ 0.5	+ 0.7
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	78.6	78.4	77.9	+ 0.2	+ 0.7
Banking	29.8	29.9	29.7	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Insurance	26.2	26.0	25.8	+ 0.2	+ 0.4
SERVICES	352.7	354.4	347.4	- 1.7	+ 5.3
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	22.5	22.8	22.5	- 0.3	0
Personal Services	14.1	14.0	14.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Business Services	56.1	56.7	55.6	- 0.6	+ 0.5
Auto Repair, Services & Garages	10.4	10.7	10.3	- 0.3	+ 0.1
Miscellaneous Repair Services	6.8	6.7	6.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Amusement & Recreation Services	10.4	10.3	9.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.7
Health Services	112.6	112.9	108.6	- 0.3	+ 4.0
Hospitals	50.7	50.7	48.3	0	+ 2.4
Legal Services	15.3	15.3	14.9	0	+ 0.4
Educational Services	23.4	23.5	25.5	- 0.1	- 2.1
Social Services	20.9	20.7	20.0	+ 0.2	+ 0.9
Membership Organizations	26.5	26.6	25.9	- 0.1	+ 0.6
Eng., Acct. and Related Services	25.9	26.2	26.0	- 0.3	- 0.1
Miscellaneous Services	3.8	3.9	3.8	- 0.1	0
GOVERNMENT	321.4	322.5	314.8	- 1.1	+ 6.6
Federal	37.2	37.2	37.6	0	- 0.4
State and Local	284.2	285.3	277.2	- 1.1	+ 7.0
State	98.9	99.9	95.3	- 1.0	+ 3.6
Local	185.3	185.4	181.9	- 0.1	+ 3.4

* Preliminary **Revised
(1) Includes furniture and fixtures, professional equipment and misc. manufacturing industries.
(2) Includes Leather, Rubber and Textile products.

All estimates of Nonagricultural wage and salaried workers in this publication are prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics and include all full-time and part-time workers who were employed during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN LOUISIANA

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Dec. '90*	Nov. '90**	Dec. '89**	Dec. '90*	Nov. '90**	Dec. '89**	Dec. '90*	Nov. '90**	Dec. '89**
ALL MANUFACTURING (1)	$520.03	514.51	492.24	43.7	43.9	43.6	11.90	11.72	11.29
Durable Goods	478.52	466.98	444.53	43.7	43.4	43.2	10.95	10.76	10.29
Lumber & Wood Products	389.70	387.60	386.72	43.3	42.5	44.4	9.00	9.12	8.71
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	421.40	407.13	364.70	43.0	41.8	39.3	9.80	9.74	9.28
Fabricated Metal Products	450.69	429.35	436.69	44.8	43.5	43.8	10.06	9.87	9.97
Machinery, ex. Electrical	454.72	462.38	418.25	45.7	45.6	44.4	9.95	10.14	9.42
Electric & Electronic Equip.	793.14	715.76	630.61	45.4	46.0	45.4	17.47	15.56	13.89
Transportation Equipment	485.90	486.21	462.76	42.4	42.8	42.3	11.46	11.36	10.94
Nondurable Goods	557.18	556.78	532.51	43.7	44.4	43.9	12.75	12.54	12.13
Food & Kindred Products	362.96	357.74	347.98	44.7	46.1	44.9	8.12	7.76	7.75
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	159.26	190.97	189.24	28.8	32.7	33.2	5.53	5.84	5.70
Paper & Allied Products	645.30	633.21	613.25	45.0	43.7	44.6	14.34	14.49	13.75
Printing & Publishing	414.34	417.88	400.13	38.4	38.8	37.5	10.79	10.77	10.67
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	774.77	741.65	730.48	47.3	45.5	46.0	16.38	16.30	15.88
Petroleum & Coal Products	818.20	934.50	833.56	48.5	54.3	52.0	16.87	17.21	16.03
Petroleum Refining	826.67	958.65	848.71	48.4	55.0	52.1	17.08	17.43	16.29
MINING	639.11	608.48	582.26	49.2	47.5	47.3	12.99	12.81	12.31
COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	545.31	533.82	522.00	41.5	41.0	41.2	13.14	13.02	12.67
BANKING	271.93	276.64	284.54	36.5	38.0	38.4	7.45	7.28	7.41

(1) Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 129,000 full-and part-time workers in manufacturing and 92,900 nonsupervisory employees in communications, public utilities, mining and banking. The averages are computed on a "Gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

BATON ROUGE AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Dec. '90*	Nov. '90**	Dec. '89**	Dec. '90*	Nov. '90**	Dec. '89**	Dec. '90*	Nov. '90**	Dec. '89**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$620.08	$590.96	$584.26	46.0	44.5	44.6	$13.48	$13.28	$13.10
Chemicals and Petro Products	792.48	766.07	776.88	48.0	45.9	46.8	16.51	16.69	16.60

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 14,800 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

All MANUFACTURING	$468.35	$480.38	$466.52	42.5	43.2	42.8	$11.02	$11.12	$10.90
Durable Goods	411.42	408.70	409.49	41.6	41.2	41.7	9.89	9.92	9.82
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	376.88	366.52	339.66	40.7	39.2	37.0	9.26	9.35	9.18
Fabricated Metal Products	419.67	388.61	428.43	41.8	38.9	42.8	10.04	9.99	10.01
Ship & Boatbuilding and Repairing	389.90	383.87	389.34	41.7	41.1	42.0	9.35	9.34	9.27
Nondurable Goods	531.14	561.47	528.44	43.5	45.5	44.0	12.21	12.34	12.01
Food & Kindred Products	372.44	386.73	342.14	41.8	43.6	38.4	8.91	8.87	8.91
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	228.60	245.48	225.20	36.0	38.0	40.0	6.35	6.46	5.63
Printing & Publishing	385.20	396.73	373.16	40.0	40.9	38.0	9.63	9.70	9.82
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	779.26	761.90	756.14	47.0	46.8	47.2	16.58	16.28	16.02

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 31,700 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

SHREVEPORT AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

All MANUFACTURING	$600.32	$563.85	$463.08	44.8	45.0	40.8	$13.40	$12.53	$11.35
Lumber and Wood Products	382.38	401.45	409.29	47.5	51.8	44.2	8.05	7.75	9.26
Food and Kindred Products	352.00	371.78	427.73	44.0	47.3	46.9	8.00	7.86	9.12
Printing and Publishing	370.74	368.37	352.76	37.0	36.8	35.1	10.02	10.01	10.05
Chemicals & Allied Products	591.43	571.86	611.30	41.1	40.3	46.7	14.39	14.19	13.09

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 13,500 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

LOUISIANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

(in thousands)	PRELIMINARY DECEMBER, 1990 Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	REVISED NOVEMBER, 1990 Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	REVISED DECEMBER, 1989 Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
LOUISIANA	1889.1	1766.5	122.6	6.5	1889.7	1773.3	116.4	6.2	1879.1	1758.3	120.8	6.4
METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS:												
Alexandria 1/	57.1	53.4	3.7	6.5	57.4	53.8	3.6	6.2	58.4	54.6	3.8	6.5
Baton Rouge 2/	268.4	253.2	15.2	5.7	269.2	254.6	14.6	5.4	269.5	254.9	14.6	5.4
Houma - Thibodaux 3/	71.6	66.9	4.7	6.5	71.1	67.4	3.7	5.3	69.4	65.4	4.0	5.8
Lafayette 4/	104.0	99.1	4.9	4.8	103.8	98.8	5.0	4.8	98.3	93.1	5.2	5.2
Lake Charles 5/	76.5	71.1	5.4	7.0	77.1	71.5	5.6	7.3	75.3	70.6	4.7	6.3
Monroe 6/	67.5	62.9	4.6	6.9	67.5	63.5	4.0	6.0	68.0	63.8	4.2	6.2
New Orleans 7/	584.6	552.8	31.8	5.4	585.2	553.5	31.7	5.4	589.3	555.8	33.5	5.7
Shreveport 8/	156.4	144.6	11.8	7.6	155.8	145.3	10.5	6.7	155.3	144.7	10.6	6.8

1/ Rapides Parish only. 2/ Includes Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge parishes. 3/ Includes Lafourche and Terrebonne parishes. 4/ Includes Lafayette and St. Martin parishes. 5/ Calcasieu Parish only. 6/ Ouachita Parish only. 7/ Includes Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, St. Tammany , St. Charles and St. John the Baptist parishes. 8/ Includes Bossier and Caddo parishes.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The Consumer Price Index, sometimes called the "Cost of Living Index", is a monthly measure of the average change in prices in a fixed quantity of goods and services.

All Urban Consumers	Index	%Change from Prior Month	% Change from Prior Year
DECEMBER 1989	126.1		
DECEMBER 1990	133.8	0	+ 6.1

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE, OTHER AREAS

AREA	PRELIMINARY DECEMBER 90 LABOR FORCE	EMPL	UNEMP	RATE	REVISED NOVEMBER 90 LABOR FORCE	EMPL	UNEMP	RATE
CROWLEY (ACADIA)	21,150	19,700	1,450	6.9	21,125	19,650	1,475	7.0
OAKDALE (ALLEN)	10,175	9,175	1,000	9.9	10,125	9,175	950	9.4
NAPOLEONVILLE (ASSUMPTION)	6,425	5,600	825	12.7	6,150	5,650	500	8.2
BUNKIE (AVOYELLES)	15,700	14,000	1,700	10.9	16,100	14,650	1,450	9.0
DERIDDER (BEAUREGARD)	13,300	12,400	900	6.7	13,275	12,350	925	7.0
ARCADIA (BIENVILLE)	6,650	6,050	600	9.0	6,450	6,000	450	7.0
COLUMBIA (CALDWELL)	4,225	3,850	375	8.7	4,250	3,875	375	8.9
CAMERON (CAMERON)	4,500	4,275	225	4.7	4,475	4,275	200	4.3
JONESVILLE (CATAHOULA)	3,325	2,925	400	11.6	3,375	3,050	325	9.6
HOMER (CLAIBORNE)	7,275	6,825	450	6.1	7,425	6,975	450	6.0
FERRIDAY (CONCORDIA)	9,125	8,000	1,125	12.3	8,975	8,050	925	10.4
MANSFIELD (DESOTO)	11,300	10,275	1,025	9.0	11,275	10,525	750	6.8
LAKE PROVIDENCE (E. CARROLL)	3,300	2,800	500	15.2	3,275	2,875	400	12.2
CLINTON (EAST FELICIANA)	7,150	6,750	400	5.6	7,175	6,775	400	5.6
VILLE PLATTE(EVANGELINE)	13,500	12,450	1,050	7.9	13,575	12,600	975	7.2
WINNSBORO (FRANKLIN)	8,500	7,650	850	9.9	8,450	7,725	725	8.5
COLFAX (GRANT)	7,200	6,600	600	8.4	7,125	6,625	500	6.9
NEW IBERIA (IBERIA)	25,900	24,475	1,425	5.5	25,875	24,350	1,525	5.9
PLAQUEMINE (IBERVILLE)	11,250	10,175	1,075	9.5	11,175	10,125	1,050	9.3
JONESBORO (JACKSON)	6,300	5,925	375	6.0	6,400	6,000	400	6.1
JENNINGS (JEFFERSON DAVIS)	10,900	10,100	800	7.4	10,775	10,025	750	7.1
JENA (LASALLE)	5,825	5,450	375	6.6	5,725	5,450	275	5.0
RUSTON (LINCOLN)	17,875	17,250	625	3.6	18,175	17,500	675	3.6
TALLULAH (MADISON)	5,200	4,625	575	11.3	5,300	4,775	525	10.1
BASTROP (MOREHOUSE)	12,575	11,375	1,200	9.5	12,575	11,400	1,175	9.4
NATCHITOCHES (NATCHITOCHES)	15,325	14,200	1,125	7.4	15,450	14,325	1,125	7.3
POINT-A-LA-HACHE (PLAQUM.)	8,700	8,100	600	7.0	8,650	8,100	550	6.4
NEW ROADS (POINTE COUPEE)	7,275	6,350	925	12.7	7,200	6,375	825	11.5
COUSHATTA (RED RIVER)	4,000	3,700	300	7.6	3,975	3,725	250	6.2
RAYVILLE (RICHLAND)	7,850	6,900	950	12.0	7,900	7,100	800	10.3
MANY (SABINE)	10,025	9,525	500	5.1	9,850	9,425	425	4.2
GREENSBURG (ST. HELENA)	2,625	2,425	200	7.8	2,650	2,450	200	7.5
LUTCHER (ST. JAMES)	9,275	8,375	900	9.6	8,750	8,100	650	7.3
OPELOUSAS (ST. LANDRY)	30,525	27,850	2,675	8.7	30,475	27,775	2,700	8.9
MORGAN CITY (ST. MARY)	23,800	22,250	1,550	6.5	23,650	22,075	1,575	6.6
HAMMOND (TANGIPAHOA)	37,325	34,150	3,175	8.5	37,550	34,450	3,100	8.3
ST. JOSEPH (TENSAS)	2,375	2,125	250	10.6	2,500	2,300	200	8.0
FARMERVILLE (UNION)	8,150	7,550	600	7.3	8,275	7,650	625	7.4
ABBEVILLE (VERMILION)	18,225	16,975	1,250	6.9	18,250	16,975	1,275	6.9
LEESVILLE (VERNON)	18,675	17,550	1,125	6.0	18,375	17,225	1,150	6.3
BOGALUSA (WASHINGTON)	17,375	15,875	1,500	8.6	17,650	16,125	1,525	8.6
MINDEN (WEBSTER)	18,500	16,825	1,675	9.0	18,350	16,900	1,450	7.9
OAK GROVE (WEST CARROLL)	4,275	3,575	700	16.2	4,325	3,775	550	12.7
ST. FRANCISVILLE (W. FELIC.)	4,150	3,900	250	5.9	4,250	4,025	225	5.3
WINNFIELD (WINN)	5,925	5,600	325	5.4	5,925	5,575	350	5.9

NOTE: LABOR MARKET AREAS ARE DESIGNATED BY NAME OF PRINCIPAL TOWN, BUT INCLUDE ALL OF PARISH IN PARENTHESES.

ABOVE DATA ROUNDED TO NEAREST 25. SUBTOTALS MAY NOT ADD TO TOTALS DUE TO ROUNDING. RATES ARE COMPUTED FROM UNROUNDED DATA.

ALEXANDRIA AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Dec. 1990*	Nov. 1990**	Dec. 1989**	Net Change From Nov. 1990	Net Change From Dec. 1989
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	45.5	45.6	46.0	- 0.1	- 0.5
GOODS PRODUCING	5.9	5.9	6.3	0	- 0.4
MINING	0.1	0.1	0.2	0	- 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	2.5	2.5	2.7	0	- 0.2
MANUFACTURING	3.3	3.3	3.4	0	- 0.1
Durable Goods	1.9	1.9	2.0	0	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	1.4	1.4	1.4	0	0
SERVICE PRODUCING	39.6	39.7	39.7	- 0.1	- 0.1
TRANSP., COMM. & PUBLIC UTIL.	2.3	2.3	2.3	0	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	10.2	10.1	10.4	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Wholesale Trade	1.9	1.9	1.8	0	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	8.3	8.2	8.6	+ 0.1	- 0.3
FINANCE, INS., & REAL ESTATE	2.3	2.3	2.5	0	- 0.2
SERVICES	11.9	11.9	11.7	0	+ 0.2
Health Services	5.4	5.4	5.1	0	+ 0.3
GOVERNMENT	12.9	13.1	12.8	- 0.2	+ 0.1
Federal	2.9	2.9	3.0	0	- 0.1
State and Local	10.0	10.2	9.8	- 0.2	+ 0.2
State	4.5	4.6	4.5	- 0.1	0
Local	5.5	5.6	5.3	- 0.1	+ 0.2

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Alexandria MSA was estimated at 45,500 for the current month. This estimate was 100 less than last month and 500 less than December, 1989.

Goods producing employment was estimated at 5,900 for December. This estimate was unchanged from last month and 400 less than December of last year. The decline from last year was centered in the construction industry.

Service producing employment for the current month was estimated at 39,600. This estimate was 100 less than November, as a result of a decrease in state and local government. Compared to December of last year, this figure declined by 100, with the largest decline centered in retail trade.

BATON ROUGE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Dec. 1990*	Nov. 1990**	Dec. 1989**	Net Change From Nov. 1990	Net Change From Dec. 1989
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	232.9	233.1	231.7	- 0.2	+ 1.2
GOODS PRODUCING	49.3	49.4	48.4	- 0.1	+ 0.9
MINING	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	26.4	26.3	26.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
MANUFACTURING	22.1	22.3	21.5	- 0.2	+ 0.6
Durable Goods	5.0	5.1	4.8	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Nondurable Goods	17.1	17.2	16.7	- 0.1	+ 0.4
Food & Kindred Products	1.9	2.0	1.9	- 0.1	0
Printing & Publishing	1.4	1.4	1.4	0	0
Chemicals and Petroleum Products	12.1	12.1	11.6	0	+ 0.5
Other Nondurable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.8	0	- 0.1
SERVICE PRODUCING	183.6	183.7	183.3	- 0.1	+ 0.3
TRANSP., COMM. & PUBLIC UTIL.	10.4	10.5	10.5	- 0.1	- 0.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	55.4	55.0	54.9	+ 0.4	+ 0.5
Wholesale Trade	12.3	12.3	12.3	0	0
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	8.7	8.7	8.7	0	0
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	3.6	3.6	3.6	0	0
Retail Trade	43.1	42.7	42.6	+ 0.4	+ 0.5
General Merchandise	8.6	8.4	8.5	+ 0.2	+ 0.1
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	13.0	13.0	13.2	0	- 0.2
Banking	4.4	4.4	4.4	0	0
SERVICES	50.5	50.5	50.3	0	+ 0.2
GOVERNMENT	54.3	54.7	54.4	- 0.4	- 0.1
Federal	2.4	2.4	2.4	0	0
State and Local	51.9	52.3	52.0	- 0.4	- 0.1
State	29.8	30.3	30.0	- 0.5	- 0.2
Local	22.1	22.0	22.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.1

BATON ROUGE AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Baton Rouge MSA, at 232,900 during December, was down 200 from the November revised estimate, but up 1,200 from the year-ago level. This employment change was due primarily to seasonal factors.

Goods producing employment at 49,300, declined 100 from November, but was up 900 from the prior year estimate. Less business in fabricated metals, and seasonal declines in food and kindred products, caused manufacturing employment to decline to 22,100. Construction employment moved upward to 26,400, due to more business for special trade contractors.

Service producing employment at 183,600, decreased 100 from November, but was 300 greater than the year-ago estimate. A seasonal decline of 100 was reported in water transportation. Also on the downturn was government, declining 400, due to seasonal reductions at state colleges and universities. Trade employment continued to move upward, affected by Christmas hiring in retail department stores, grocery stores, and apparel and accessory stores.

Average weekly earnings of the Baton Rouge MSA's 14,800 production workers in all manufacturing were $620.08 for December, an increase of $29.12 from the November average. Compared to the prior year, weekly earnings were up $35.82. Average weekly hours at 46.0 increased by 1.5 hours. Average hourly earnings at $13.48 increased by $0.20 per hour. Overtime worked at premium pay contributed to these changes.

The total civilian labor force for the Baton Rouge MSA was 268,400, comprised of 253,200 employed and 15,200 unemployed. The unemployment rate for the MSA was 5.7 percent in December.

The Baton Rouge Job Service Office served 1,290 individuals with new or renewal applications. A total of 1,278 referrals to current openings resulted in 116 placements during the month of December.

HOUMA - THIBODAUX AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Dec. 1990*	Nov. 1990**	Dec. 1989**	Net Change From Nov. 1990	Net Change From Dec. 1989
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	58.8	58.9	55.4	- 0.1	+ 3.4
GOODS PRODUCING	13.2	13.2	12.2	0	+ 1.0
MINING	5.4	5.4	5.5	0	- 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	1.9	1.9	1.7	0	+ 0.2
MANUFACTURING	5.9	5.9	5.0	0	+ 0.9
Durable Goods	4.1	4.0	3.0	+ 0.1	+ 1.1
Nondurable Goods	1.8	1.9	2.0	- 0.1	- 0.2
SERVICE PRODUCING	45.6	45.7	43.2	- 0.1	+ 2.4
TRANSP., COMM. & PUBLIC UTIL.	6.6	6.7	6.5	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Water Transportation	4.2	4.2	4.2	0	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	14.8	15.0	14.5	- 0.2	+ 0.3
Wholesale Trade	3.0	3.1	3.1	- 0.1	- 0.1
Retail Trade	11.8	11.9	11.4	- 0.1	+ 0.4
General Mdse. & App. & Acc.	2.4	2.4	2.3	0	+ 0.1
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	2.1	2.1	2.1	0	0
SERVICES	11.1	10.8	9.6	+ 0.3	+ 1.5
GOVERNMENT	11.0	11.1	10.5	- 0.1	+ 0.5
Federal	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
State and Local	10.5	10.6	10.0	- 0.1	+ 0.5
State	3.1	3.2	3.0	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Local	7.4	7.4	7.0	0	+ 0.4

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Houma-Thibodaux MSA eased down to 58,800, a level 100 below November. The decrease was largely in the service producing segment and was partly seasonal in nature.

Goods producing employment was 13,200, unchanged from the November revised level, but 1,000 above the December, 1989 figure.

Service producing employment exhibited an overall decrease of 100. Transportation, communications, and public utilities decreased due to a seasonal downturn. Trade was lowered by downturns in wholesale and retail trade. Services employment increased throughout the industry. State education employment showed a slight decline as the autumn semester neared its end.

Estimated unemployment was 4,700 in December. Unemployment presently comprises 6.5 percent of the civilian labor force for the Houma-Thibodaux MSA. Recipients of regular unemployment benefits totaled 630.

LAFAYETTE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Dec. 1990*	Nov. 1990**	Dec. 1989**	Net Change From Nov. 1990	Net Change From Dec. 1989
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	96.1	95.4	88.5	+ 0.7	+ 7.6
GOODS PRODUCING	25.4	25.0	23.0	+ 0.4	+ 2.4
MINING	12.5	12.5	11.5	0	+ 1.0
CONSTRUCTION	4.2	3.9	3.3	+ 0.3	+ 0.9
MANUFACTURING	8.7	8.6	8.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
Durable Goods	2.3	2.2	2.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	6.4	6.4	6.0	0	+ 0.4
SERVICE PRODUCING	70.7	70.4	65.5	+ 0.3	+ 5.2
TRANSP., COMM. & PUBLIC UTIL.	7.0	6.9	6.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.8
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	25.7	25.7	24.3	0	+ 1.4
Wholesale Trade	5.9	6.0	5.7	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Retail Trade	19.8	19.7	18.6	+ 0.1	+ 1.2
General Merchandise	3.2	3.2	3.2	0	0
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	3.3	3.3	3.2	0	+ 0.1
Banking	1.2	1.2	1.1	0	+ 0.1
SERVICES	21.4	21.2	19.1	+ 0.2	+ 2.3
GOVERNMENT	13.3	13.3	12.7	0	+ 0.6
Federal	0.9	1.0	0.8	- 0.1	+ 0.1
State and Local	12.4	12.3	11.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
State	5.0	5.0	5.0	0	0
Local	7.4	7.3	6.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.5

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Lafayette MSA was estimated at 96,100, an increase of 700 from the previous month.

Goods producing employment, estimated at 25,400, was 400 above the November level. Construction was up by 300, with the gain in the special trade contractors sector. Manufacturing showed a minimal gain of 100.

Service producing employment was estimated at 70,700, an increase of 300 from the November estimate. Services was up by 200, with the increase centered in business services. accounting services, and agricultural services. Transportation, communications, and public utilities rose by 100 due to water and local passenger transportation employment expanding.

LAKE CHARLES AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Dec. 1990*	Nov. 1990**	Dec. 1989**	Net Change From Nov. 1990	Net Change From Dec. 1989
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	64.6	65.0	63.6	- 0.4	+ 1.0
GOODS PRODUCING	17.0	17.2	17.5	- 0.2	- 0.5
MINING	1.2	1.2	1.0	0	+ 0.2
CONSTRUCTION	4.5	4.6	4.8	- 0.1	- 0.3
MANUFACTURING	11.3	11.4	11.7	- 0.1	- 0.4
Durable Goods	2.7	2.8	3.2	- 0.1	- 0.5
Nondurable Goods	8.6	8.6	8.5	0	+ 0.1
Chemical & Petro Products	7.8	7.8	7.7	0	+ 0.1
SERVICE PRODUCING	47.6	47.8	46.1	- 0.2	+ 1.5
TRANSP., COMM. & PUBLIC UTIL.	4.0	4.2	4.2	- 0.2	- 0.2
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	15.8	15.7	15.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Wholesale Trade	3.5	3.5	3.0	0	+ 0.5
Retail Trade	12.3	12.2	12.5	+ 0.1	- 0.2
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	3.0	3.0	3.1	0	- 0.1
SERVICES	13.8	13.9	12.8	- 0.1	+ 1.0
GOVERNMENT	11.0	11.0	10.5	0	+ 0.5
Federal	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
State and Local	10.4	10.4	9.9	0	+ 0.5
State	3.2	3.2	2.9	0	+ 0.3
Local	7.2	7.2	7.0	0	+ 0.2

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Lake Charles MSA was estimated at 64,600 for the current month. This is a loss of 400 from the November revised estimate of 65,000.

Goods producing employment for December was estimated at 17,000. This is a decrease of 200 from November's revised level of 17,200. Construction and manufacturing each had a drop of 100.

Service producing employment dropped to 47,600, down 200 from last month's estimate of 47,800. Transportation, communications, and public utilities was down due to a decline in water transportation. Services employment declined by 100 in business services. Trade employment rose because of the holiday season.

MONROE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Dec. 1990*	Nov. 1990**	Dec. 1989**	Net Change From Nov. 1990	Net Change From Dec. 1989
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	56.7	57.1	56.8	- 0.4	- 0.1
GOODS PRODUCING	10.9	11.2	10.8	- 0.3	+ 0.1
MINING	0.5	0.6	0.5	- 0.1	0
CONSTRUCTION	2.6	2.8	2.7	- 0.2	- 0.1
MANUFACTURING	7.8	7.8	7.6	0	+ 0.2
Durable Goods	2.1	2.1	2.1	0	0
Nondurable Goods	5.7	5.7	5.5	0	+ 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	4.9	4.9	4.7	0	+ 0.2
SERVICE PRODUCING	45.8	45.9	46.0	- 0.1	- 0.2
TRANSP. COMM. & PUBLIC UTIL.	2.7	2.7	3.1	0	- 0.4
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	14.5	14.4	14.8	+ 0.1	- 0.3
Wholesale Trade	3.6	3.6	3.8	0	- 0.2
Retail Trade	10.9	10.8	11.0	+ 0.1	- 0.1
General Mdse. and Apprl. & Acc.	2.9	2.8	2.9	+ 0.1	0
Eating & Drinking Places	3.5	3.5	3.4	0	+ 0.1
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	4.2	4.2	4.3	0	- 0.1
Banking	1.7	1.7	1.8	0	- 0.1
SERVICES	13.0	13.1	12.8	- 0.1	+ 0.2
GOVERNMENT	11.4	11.5	11.0	- 0.1	+ 0.4
Federal	0.7	0.7	0.6	0	+ 0.1
State and Local	10.7	10.8	10.4	- 0.1	+ 0.3
State	4.8	4.8	4.7	0	+ 0.1
Local	5.9	6.0	5.7	- 0.1	+ 0.2

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Monroe MSA was estimated at 56,700 for the current month. This was 400 below last month, and 100 less than December, 1989.

Goods producing employment was estimated at 10,900 during December. This estimate was 300 below the November estimate, the result of a decline in mining and construction.

Service producing employment for December was estimated at 45,800, a decline of 100 from the November estimate. Trade was the only segment to show a gain over the month. Services and government declined by 100 each.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Dec. 1990*	Nov. 1990**	Dec. 1989**	Net Change From Nov. 1990	Net Change From Dec. 1989
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	539.6	538.3	534.4	+ 1.3	+ 5.2
GOODS PRODUCING	82.9	83.5	80.6	- 0.6	+ 2.3
MINING	14.3	14.3	14.6	0	- 0.3
Oil & Gas Extraction	13.9	13.9	14.3	0	- 0.4
CONSTRUCTION	23.4	23.8	22.3	- 0.4	+ 1.1
MANUFACTURING	45.2	45.4	43.7	- 0.2	+ 1.5
Durable Goods	24.3	24.2	22.9	+ 0.1	+ 1.4
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	1.4	1.4	1.3	0	+ 0.1
Fabricated Metal Products	2.4	2.4	2.2	0	+ 0.2
Machinery Inc. Electrical	3.3	3.3	3.0	0	+ 0.3
Transportation Equipment	14.7	14.6	14.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.7
Ship & Boatbuilding & Repairing	11.2	11.1	10.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.8
Other Durable Goods	2.0	2.0	1.9	0	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	20.9	21.2	20.8	- 0.3	+ 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	5.6	5.6	5.5	0	+ 0.1
Apparel & Other Textile Products	1.9	2.0	2.0	- 0.1	- 0.1
Printing & Publishing	3.7	3.7	3.6	0	+ 0.1
Chemicals and Allied Products	4.9	5.0	4.9	- 0.1	0
Petroleum & Coal Products	3.7	3.7	3.7	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.1	1.2	1.1	- 0.1	0
SERVICE PRODUCING	456.7	454.8	453.8	+ 1.9	+ 2.9
TRANSP., COMM. & PUBLIC UTIL.	43.2	43.5	43.6	- 0.3	- 0.4
Railroad Transportation	1.3	1.3	1.3	0	0
Trucking and Warehousing	8.1	8.2	8.4	- 0.1	- 0.3
Water Transportation	12.8	13.0	13.0	- 0.2	- 0.2
Comm. & Public Util.	13.1	13.1	13.0	0	+ 0.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	138.5	136.5	139.8	+ 2.0	- 1.3
Wholesale Trade	31.8	31.9	32.6	- 0.1	- 0.8
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	18.0	18.0	18.6	0	- 0.6
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	13.8	13.9	14.0	- 0.1	- 0.2
Retail Trade	106.7	104.6	107.2	+ 2.1	- 0.5
General Merchandise	14.7	13.9	14.7	+ 0.8	0
Food Stores	20.6	20.5	20.7	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	36.2	35.9	36.3	+ 0.3	- 0.1
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	31.9	31.9	33.5	0	- 1.6
Banking	10.3	10.3	10.5	0	- 0.2
SERVICES	154.3	154.3	149.9	0	+ 4.4
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	14.2	14.5	14.5	- 0.3	- 0.3
Health Services	41.0	41.0	39.0	0	+ 2.0
Educational Services	18.4	18.5	17.4	- 0.1	+ 1.0
GOVERNMENT	88.8	88.6	87.0	+ 0.2	+ 1.8
Federal	16.4	16.3	16.7	+ 0.1	- 0.3
State and Local	72.4	72.3	70.3	+ 0.1	+ 2.1
State	19.0	19.0	18.5	0	+ 0.5
Local	53.4	53.3	51.8	+ 0.1	+ 1.6

NEW ORLEANS AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment for the New Orleans MSA for December was estimated at 539,600, an increase of 1,300 from the previous month. Gains were attributed to normal seasonal factors.

Goods producing employment decreased to 82,900, down 600 from the November revised level, but 2,300 above the December, 1989 figure. Construction exhibited a normal seasonal downturn. In manufacturing, ship and boat building and repairing experienced an increase due to additional contracts. Apparel and other textile products, chemical and allied products, and other nondurable goods all experienced losses due to less business. Mining remained unchanged over the month.

Service producing employment increased 1,900 over the month. Transportation, communications, and public utilities moved down mostly in water transportation. Retail trade displayed generous seasonal gains while wholesale trade showed a slight reduction in employment. Government employment increased at the federal and local government levels.

Production workers in the area earned an average of $468.35 per week, down $12.03 from last month's average. Average weekly hours were 42.5, down 0.7 hours from the previous month. Average hourly earnings were $11.02, down $0.10 from November, but up $0.12 over December of last year.

Estimated unemployment was 31,800 for December. The unemployment rate registered 5.4 percent. Recipients of regular unemployment totaled 6,242.

SHREVEPORT AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Dec. 1990*	Nov. 1990**	Dec. 1989**	Net Change From Nov. 1990	Net Change From Dec. 1989
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	133.2	133.2	131.4	0	+ 1.8
GOODS PRODUCING	27.3	27.8	26.3	- 0.5	+ 1.0
MINING	3.2	3.2	3.2	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	6.1	6.5	5.4	- 0.4	+ 0.7
MANUFACTURING	18.0	18.1	17.7	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Durable Goods	12.9	13.0	12.5	- 0.1	+ 0.4
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.4	0	+ 0.1
Primary and Fabricated Metals	2.1	2.1	1.9	0	+ 0.2
Machinery, Inc. Electrical	5.4	5.4	5.4	0	0
Other Durable Goods	4.9	5.0	4.8	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Nondurable Good	5.1	5.1	5.2	0	- 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	0
Printing & Publishing	1.3	1.3	1.3	0	0
Chemicals & Petroleum Products	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.6	1.6	1.7	0	- 0.1
SERVICE PRODUCING	105.9	105.4	105.1	+ 0.5	+ 0.8
TRANSP., COMM. & PUBLIC UTIL.	8.3	8.3	8.4	0	- 0.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	33.8	33.5	33.1	+ 0.3	+ 0.7
Wholesale Trade	7.9	7.9	7.9	0	0
Retail Trade	25.9	25.6	25.2	+ 0.3	+ 0.7
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	6.3	6.2	6.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
SERVICES	32.1	32.1	32.0	0	+ 0.1
GOVERNMENT	25.4	25.3	25.4	+ 0.1	0
Federal	4.8	4.8	4.9	0	- 0.1
State and Local	20.6	20.5	20.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
State	5.8	5.8	6.1	0	- 0.3
Local	14.8	14.7	14.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.4

SHREVEPORT AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

The estimate of 133,200 in December for total nonagricultural wage and salary employment in Shreveport was unchanged from the November revised estimate.

Goods producing employment, estimated at 27,300, declined 500 from November to December. Job losses in construction activities were caused primarily by adverse weather, stopping most interstate and commercial construction work. Total manufacturing employment decreased slightly from 18,100 in November to 18,000 in December.

Service producing employment, estimated at 105,900, showed seasonal gains. Retail trade showed an over-the-month increase, up from 25,600 in November to 25,900 in December. Finance, insurance, and real estate rose slightly during the month from 6,200 to 6,300. Small gains in local government employment are reflected in the total government estimate of 25,400, up from the November revised estimate of 25,300.

Production workers in manufacturing in the Shreveport area estimated at 13,500, had average weekly earnings of $500.32, up $36.47 from November. Average weekly hours of 44.8 fell slightly from 45.0 in November while average hourly earnings increased to $13.40, up $0.87 from the November figure.

The civilian labor force in the Shreveport area, estimated at 156,400 in December, included 144,600 employed and 11,800 unemployed. The unemployment rate for this area was 7.6 percent. The unemployment rate for this area averaged 6.9 percent for October, November, and December and 7.9 percent for the same period one year ago.

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